



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

**Committee Bill No. 5431**

LCO No. 2470

\*02470HB05431HS\_\*

Referred to Committee on Human Services

Introduced by:  
(HS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICE BY THE COMMISSIONER OF  
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES TO THE COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
CONCERNING ALLEGATIONS OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT BY A  
SCHOOL EMPLOYEE.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17a-101i of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*  
3 *October 1, 2011*):

4 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, after an  
5 investigation has been completed and the Commissioner of Children  
6 and Families, based upon the results of the investigation, has  
7 reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused by a school  
8 employee who holds a certificate, permit or authorization issued by  
9 the State Board of Education, and the [commissioner] Commissioner of  
10 Children and Families has recommended that such employee be  
11 placed on the child abuse and neglect registry established pursuant to  
12 section 17a-101k, the [commissioner] Commissioner of Children and  
13 Families shall, not later than five working days after such finding,  
14 notify the employing superintendent, the local or regional board of

15 education and the Commissioner of Education of such finding and  
 16 shall provide records, whether or not created by the department,  
 17 concerning such investigation to the local or regional board of  
 18 education, the Commissioner of Education and the superintendent  
 19 who shall suspend such school employee. The [commissioner]  
 20 Commissioner of Children and Families shall provide such notice  
 21 whether or not the child was a student in the employing school or  
 22 school district. Such suspension shall be with pay and shall not result  
 23 in the diminution or termination of benefits to such employee. [Within  
 24 seventy-two hours after such suspension the superintendent shall  
 25 notify the local or regional board of education and the Commissioner  
 26 of Education, or the commissioner's representative, of the reasons for  
 27 and conditions of the suspension. The superintendent shall disclose  
 28 such records to the Commissioner of Education and the local or  
 29 regional board of education or its attorney for purposes of review of  
 30 employment status or the status of such employee's certificate, permit  
 31 or authorization.] The suspension of a school employee employed in a  
 32 position requiring a certificate shall remain in effect until the board of  
 33 education acts pursuant to the provisions of section 10-151. If the  
 34 contract of employment of such certified school employee is  
 35 terminated, the superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of  
 36 Education, or the commissioner's representative, [within] not later than  
 37 seventy-two hours after such termination. Upon receipt of such notice  
 38 from the superintendent, the Commissioner of Education may  
 39 commence certification revocation proceedings pursuant to the  
 40 provisions of subsection (j) of section 10-145b. Notwithstanding the  
 41 provisions of sections 1-210 and 1-211, information received by the  
 42 Commissioner of Education, or the commissioner's representative,  
 43 pursuant to this section shall be confidential subject to regulations  
 44 adopted by the State Board of Education under section 10-145g.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	17a-101i(a)
-----------	------------------------	-------------

**Statement of Purpose:**

To require the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to notify the State Department of Education when DCF substantiates an allegation that a certified school employee has abused or neglected a child.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*

Co-Sponsors: REP. LYDDY, 106th Dist.

H.B. 5431